

Present: Cllrs Barwick, Brown, Henderson, Munson, Scott

In the Chair: Cllr Smith

Clerk: Michelle Curtis

Also Present: 1 Member of the Public

1. Welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Apologies for Absence

There were apologies for absence from Cllr Dorman.

3. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Munson disclosed interests as follows:

- Personal interest in agenda item 9, planning application HOUSE/MAL/21/00858, as he owns the land behind the property.
- Personal interest in agenda item 16.3.1, highways/footpaths, as he wished to raise a concern regarding a footpath next to his land in Kelvedon Road.

4. County Councillor and District Councillors

There was no County or District Councillors present.

5. Public Forum

A member of the public raised concerns regarding the parking on the corner near the shop down to D'Arcy House. People are parking on the bend, and it is dangerous to both drivers and pedestrians as you cannot see around the parked vehicles for oncoming traffic. The resident explained that his family has recently been involved in an accident on the corner and requested that the Parish Council consider options to address the issue.

The Chairman explained the Parish Council had reported this issue to the police and had also written to residents requesting that they do not park in this area.

The Council would discuss this issue under item 12 on the agenda.

6. Minutes

Minutes 31st August 2021

Resolved: The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 31st August 2021 be approved as a true and accurate record of the meeting. Unanimously agreed.

The Chairman signed the Minutes.

7. Finance

7.1 Monthly Financial Report

The Financial Reports were presented to the Council.

Councillors received the following monthly Financial Reports as of 31st August 2021:

Bank Reconciliation – a Closing balance of £39,127.84

Expenditure to date – Budget £25,014 – Actual £21,147

Income to date (including Precept (£21,515) £25,015 – Actual £22,573
Earmarked Funds – Closing Balance - £5,838.60 – Net Transfers -£2,880.98

The Chairman signed the Reports.

7.2 Payments

Items for payment totalling £3,495.24 were presented for approval.

Resolved: To approve payments. Unanimously agreed.

8. Annual Governance & Accountability Return (AGAR)

The Clerk advised the AGAR had been received from the External Auditors PKF Littlejohn LLP. The Auditors reported the following:

“On the basis of our review Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR), in our opinion the information in Sections 1 and 2 of the AGAR is in accordance with Proper Practices and no matters have come to our attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met”.

“Other matters not affecting our opinion which we draw to the attention of the authority: None”.

The Clerk advised the “Notice of conclusion of audit, along with sections 1, 2 and 3 of the AGAR, are to be displayed in the noticeboard and on the Parish Council website.

9. Planning

Planning Applications and Decisions

– Planning Applications:

Application No: LDP/MAL/21/00850 PP-10137296

Proposal: Claim for lawful development certificate for a proposed new outbuilding containing workspace and gym.

Location: 25 Chapel Road Tolleshunt D'arcy

Resolved: to respond no comment but would like to bring to the attention of Maldon District Council that the property is within the conservation area.

Application No: HOUSE/MAL/21/00858 PP-10148993

Proposal: Two-storey side and rear extension. Roof alterations to rear. Changes to fenestration.

Location: 1 Grouts Farm Cottage Kelvedon Road Tolleshunt D'Arcy

Resolved: to recommend approval of this planning application. Unanimously agreed.

Application No: AGR/MAL/21/00965 PP-10198679

Proposal: Prior notification for an agricultural grain and straw storage building

Location: Agricultural Barn At Hornbeams Grove Farm Road Tiptree

Resolved: No comment

– **Planning Appeals:** None received

– **Planning Decisions:** None received

– **Planning Appeal Decisions:** None received

- **Tree Preservation Order:** None received

10. Training

No training was requested.

11. Grant Application

Resolved: to provide a grant of £200 towards a line-marker to mark out the pitches for the weekend football. Unanimously agreed.

12. Traffic/Parking

Councillors discussed the ongoing issues with the parking on the corner outside the shop and also Chapel Road. Councillors had written to residents, put signs up in Chapel Road and made reports to Essex Police. Parking issues improve short term but then return.

In the past, Councillors had been reluctant to look into options for double yellow lines in the village, but lines in very specific areas could be the only option to address the issue.

Councillor unanimously agreed in principle to:

1. Formally complain to the police and mention the recent accident.
2. Identify the procedure for applying for a yellow line(s) so that we can proceed immediately if the police do not take effective action.

13. Pavilion

Resolved: to ratify the decision to proceed with the amended internal alterations to the Pavilion to enlarge the main hall area and reconfigure the football changing area.

The football teams had confirmed that they were happy with the proposed changes to the layout.

14. Police/Community Protection Officers (CPOs)

14.1 Police Report

The Police Reports were received and noted.

14.2 Community Protection Officers (CPOs)

The CPO Report for August 2021 was received and noted.

During the CPOs Patrols in August, there were 27 speeding offences.

Cllr Munson stated that there was a speeding issue in the village, the Chairman pointed out that this contradicted statements made by Cllr Munson at the last meeting. The Chairman stated that even if the speed limits were not being exceeded there are parts of the village where the speed limits are too high as suggested by Cllr Scott at the previous meeting. It was agreed that we should explore the possibility of reducing the speed limit in the village to 20mph.

Action: Clerk to look into reducing the speed limit in the village to 20mph.

15. Administration

There was no new information from the Clerk.

16. Representative Reports

16.1 Burial Ground

16.1.1 Update from Cllr Brown

Cllr Brown reported that Maldon District Council had not cut the hedge on the left as you enter the Burial Ground. They had cut all other hedges.

Action: Clerk to raise with Maldon District Council.

16.1.2 Burial Ground Gate

To be deferred to the next meeting once all quotations have been received.

16.2 Recreation Ground

16.2.1 Update from Cllr Dorman

There was no update as Cllr Dorman was not present at the meeting.

16.2.2 Youth Shelter – Surfacing

Cllr Barwick reported that the surfacing was in terrible condition and appeared to have been dug up, making it very uneven and dangerous.

The Chairman reported that two quotations had been received for the surfacing under the youth shelter. One quotation was for SUDS Bond Surfacing, and the other was for a concrete surface to match the existing surface under the table tennis unit.

Councillors discussed the options for the surfacing and agreed that they would prefer concrete surfacing to match the existing surfacing under the table tennis unit.

Action: Two additional quotations to be obtained for the concrete surfacing (specification as existing surfacing)

Action: Once quotations have been received, the Clerk will circulate them to Councillors to decide the preferred supplier. The decision is to be ratified at the Parish Council meeting on 26th October 2021.

16.3 Highway/Footpaths

16.3.1 Cllr Munson reported that he owned the land adjacent to the new footpath in Kelvedon Road, which was very popular with walkers, and he wished to bring to the attention of the Parish Council that there are no dog bins at either end of the footpath.

Action: Monitor the area for issues with dog fouling.

17. Community Concerns – Information Exchange/Next Agenda Items

It was agreed to put up the Tommy silhouette on the Maypole from 1st November 2021.

Action: Cllr Barwick to advise the school that Tommy was being put up should the children wish to do some decorations for Remembrance Day.

It was agreed to start working on the next edition of the Parish Council Newsletter.

18. Date of the Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on:

Tuesday 26th October 2021 – Full Council Meeting – 7.30 pm

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.43 pm.

Signed.....

Date:.....